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Your essential daily news | MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016

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SEAMUS O'REGAN
Liberal MP enters rehab for 'alcohol-free lifestyle'
metroNEWS

3... 2... 1 TAPPY COMMUTING

To celebrate the new year, TransLink has made the switch to tap-in, tap-out Compass cards metroNEWS

JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Operation get Operation Red Nose

DOWNTOWN

City noticeably absent from designated driver program

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Chris Wilson has already made his New Year's resolution: Bring Operation Red Nose to Vancouver.

The popular holiday-time designated driver program has been successfully operating in the Lower Mainland for more than 20 years but Wilson — the organizer of the service in the Tri-Cities, Burnaby and New Westminster — says a suitable non-profit association has never stepped up to bring it to Vancouver and its downtown core.

This season, Operation Red Nose offered free rides during holiday weekends and New Year's Eve in Abbotsford, Burnaby, Chilliwack, Delta, Richmond, Langley, Surrey, New Westminster, North and West Vancouver, Ridge Meadows and the Tri-Cities.

Vancouver's notable absence from Operation Red Nose's service area — given its concentration of bars and entertainment venues — always leads to speculation that there are some municipal bylaws or special interest group opposition preventing it from setting up downtown, Wilson says.

"It's nothing like that at all," he said. "It's just about trying to find the right group to take it on. I say this to myself every year, but now I'm saying it publicly, too: I will be definitely talking to some of the Rotary clubs in Vancouver (about establishing Operation Red Nose)."

Rotary clubs were instrumental in getting the service going in many suburbs because of the grassroots structure of Operation Red Nose.

Essentially, charities have to apply to provide the service locally (it gets to keep the proceeds) and then be approved through a rigorous screening process by Operation Red Nose's national headquarters.

934

In Wilson's region, 244 volunteers gave 934 free rides homes to people during nine nights this holiday season.

In the Tri-Cities, for example, Rotary clubs wanted to set up the service for their communities in 2007 and decided to partner with KidSport.

"I run KidSport in the Tri-Cities, therefore I run Operation Red Nose in the Tri-Cities," Wilson said.

Wilson has a few theories why Operation Red Nose has yet to infiltrate Vancouver.

The city, especially its downtown core, already has more transit options for party-goers than the suburbs and potential operators may be scared off by the higher demand the service would likely see in Vancouver.

metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Judge rules Bill Cosby's wife, Camille, must testify in civil case against him.

Candidates gear up for byelection

POLITICS

Vancouver-Mount Pleasant will replace Jenny Kwan

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

The wait is almost over for candidates hoping to represent Vancouver-Mountain Pleasant in the provincial legislature.

While Premier Christy Clark has yet to officially call a by-election for the riding — to replace long-time NDP MLA Jenny Kwan, who is now a federal MP for Vancouver East — all three major parities have already nominated candidates in the race, and some have been drumming up support for months now.

NDP candidate Melanie Mark, former president of the Urban Native Youth Association and staffer for the Office of the Representative for Children and Youth, officially launched her campaign on Sunday on Commercial Drive.

The Liberal Party announced Dec. 17 that business consultant Gavin Dew — who has political experience on B.C. Liberal and Vancouver Non-Partisan Association campaigns — would be its candidate in the riding.

Green candidate Pete Fry opened a campaign office in November.

The government is required to call a byelection by Jan. 13 (six months after Kwan stepped down), so the announcement appears to be imminent.

"We were assuming it would happen a whole lot sooner," said Fry, the Green Party's nominee since May. "The lack of local representation is pretty significantly felt in the community here. We've been ready for a while."

The announcement, when it happens, will trigger a 28-day election period.

Fry said he expects housing affordability and addressing constituents' concerns — the riding includes the Downtown Eastside — to be major issues in the byelection.

Metro was unable to reach Dew and Mark for comment by deadline.

DOWNTOWN
FOR THE BIRDS
A passerby feeds seagulls in downtown Vancouver on Sunday. The recent spat of cold, sunny weather is on the wane, with Environment Canada calling for mostly cloudy skies with a 70 per cent chance of showers or flurries today.
DARRYL DYCK/
THE CANADIAN PRESS

PUBLIC SERVICES

Fee increases in 2016 include MSP, ferries, property taxes

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Going to the doctor, taking a ferry trip and owning a home will all cost more for the average British Columbian in 2016.

The provincial and municipal governments have increased or plan to increase fees for a variety of services this year, a move that prompted swift criticism by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF).

As of Jan. 1, Medical Service Plan (MSP) premiums increased by up to $72 annually for people who earn more than $30,000 in net income. Starting in April, BC Ferries can raise its fares by up to 1.9 per cent annually for the next four years.

In Vancouver, property taxes will jump by 2.3 per cent along with a slight increase in utility fees. On Monday, B.C. Assessments will release its annual property valuations following a December warning that values spiked for more homes than usual.

ICBC has also applied to raise its rates (it would amount to several extra dollars per month), and B.C. Hydro could raise its rates by up to 6 per cent.

That said, the Canadian Taxpayer Federation estimates those increases may be offset by the new federal government's plan to cut taxes to 20.5 per cent from 22 per cent for those who earn between $45,282 and $90,563.

"The feds giveth and the province and cities taketh away," B.C. CTF director Jordan Bateman said in a statement.

"Even if you're lucky enough to get a cut in taxes because of Prime Minister Trudeau's election promises, you'll end up handing back a big chunk of that to the province and cities."

However, people who earn more than $200,000 will have to hand over more cash to the feds, too. The Liberal government raised taxes on that bracket to 33 per cent from 29 per cent.

BC Ferries vessels travel between Horseshoe Bay and Bowen Island. They will be able to raise fares by up to 1.9 per cent annually for the next four years. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Mom, aunt seriously injured after saving boy from pet dog

ROTTWEILER-HUSKY

Twin sisters in hospital after 'scene from nightmare'

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Jessi and Kati Mather, 21, are recovering after a dog attack. The twins saved Jessi's three-year-old son from harm. GOFUNDME IMAGE

Twin sisters in Richmond are recovering at home after suffering critical injuries when their dog, a Rottweiler-Husky named Yogi, attacked them in a park last week.

An online fundraising campaign was set up to help the 21-year-old sisters after Kati Mather was bitten more than 100 times while protecting her sister Jessi's three-year-old son when Kati's boyfriend's dog attacked the trio in a field on Wednesday. Jessi was also injured protecting her child, but the boy was unharmed.

Richmond Mounties lauded the sisters, as well as a Good Samaritan who was injured while trying to stop the dog, for their heroism in saving the boy. Const. Dennis Hwang referred to the attack as a "scene from their worst nightmare."

The dog, which ran away after police shot at it, was eventually captured and is being held by a Richmond animal shelter while the city determines its fate.

The sisters' friend, Alegria Gomez, set up the GoFundMe campaign to help her friends cover their bills while they recover, stating they are unable to work (both work in food service, according to Facebook) as they heal.

Kati is especially injured. She underwent surgery for her bites, a broken arm and a detached bicep, according to Richmond RCMP.

The online campaign raised $635 over the weekend, but was removed from the website on Sunday afternoon shortly after a CTV news report questioned how the dog was treated in light of the sisters' social media portrayal of their substance use. (They run social media accounts called "Twins That Toke THC.") Neighbours and friends told CTV conflicting stories about the dog's care.

> **We have no idea what triggered this attack. That's going to be up to the police and the city to investigate.**
> Eyal Lichtmann, Richmond Animal Protection Society

Yogi is being held by the Richmond Animal Protection Society, where he is being well fed and taken care of until the city decides whether he should be put down, CEO Eyal Lichtmann said Sunday.

The dog is in a highly secure isolation room to "make sure that no one can break in and get at the dog, either to do some form of retribution or to try to free him depending on what side of the story they're on," Lichtmann said.

"He's totally docile and friendly with the staff," he said. "We have no idea what triggered this attack. That's going to be up to the police and the city to investigate."

Regardless, Yogi will now be considered dangerous under B.C. laws as it has performed a vicious act. Bylaw officers will ultimately decide whether the dog can be muzzled and leashed, or if it needs to be destroyed. If the owners do not agree that the dog should be put down, Richmond must apply for a provincial court order to destroy the animal.

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A passenger "taps in" to the system, using a Compass card for access to Metro Vancouver transit. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Compass is here, ready or not

TRANSIT

TransLink moves to new tap-in-tap-out pay system

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

TransLink is celebrating 2016 by officially phasing out paper bus passes and switching to reusable Compass cards, a tap-in-tap-out system the regional transportation authority promised to implement three years ago.

As of Jan. 1, passengers are no longer be able to buy paper monthly passes and must instead buy Compass cards and load them with monthly one-, two- or three-zone passes. As of Sunday morning, TransLink said 80,000 people loaded monthly passes to their Compass cards.

An estimated 20,000 more are expected to do so by the end of the week.

But the switch did not run as smoothly as hoped. Frustrated customers complained of long waits to speak to customer service agents and a long delay between purchasing a pass and the card recognizing the value – this took more than two hours on Saturday.

> **We want to assure customers we are doing everything we can to help them through this transition.** Statement from TransLink

"We're sorry for the inconvenience and thank our customers for their patience. We'll continue to monitor the system over the coming days as more customers purchase monthly passes," TransLink said in a Sunday statement. TransLink claims it has addressed the lag time with its contractor and that it should be less than two hours going forward.

"We want to assure customers we are doing everything we can to help them through this transition," according to the statement.

Still, Twitter buzzed with passengers exasperated by extra charges after forgetting to tap out.

TransLink plans to close most fare gates at all SkyTrain stations to force people to tap out.

At least one gate will remain open at each station, including accessible gates that are wider to accommodate people with mobility issues.

TransLink remains mum on when it will close every gate, but promises to give people plenty of notice.

For those with leftover paper FareSaver tickets, don't throw them in the trash. They don't expire and will continue to be accepted on buses, SkyTrain, SeaBus and HandyDart.

MORE DETAILS

Visit compasscard.ca to learn more about Compass cards. They can be loaded online and bought anywhere FareSavers used to be sold.

FITNESS

Pump up your workout with a little Austro-military help

Tereza Verenca
Metro | Vancouver

Heavy metal band ArnoCorps co-created the newest version of Wheel of Pain with a Vancouver software developer. CONTRIBUTED

A Vancouver company and a heavy metal band want to help people achieve their get-into-shape New Year's resolutions with a unique fitness app.

Tony Davies of Full On Software recently launched Version 2.0 of Wheel of Pain – a 10-week training regime that encourages users to work their way up to 102 pushups.

The app uses the vocals of Graf Holzfeuer, the lead singer of San Francisco-based ArnoCorps, a six-member ensemble known for its high-energy performances as Austrian military men who sing of their homeland's legends.

Holzfeuer acts as coach on the digital platform, yelling things like "C'mon, you're getting soft" and "fantastic pectorals." The band's songs, meanwhile, play in the background.

The app even contains a censor that can detect the pushups so fitness enthusiasts don't have to touch the screen.

"It does seem to work," Davies said of user feedback.

The concept of Wheel of Pain, Version 1.0, came together in 2013 while the band was brainstorming with Davies on how they could better interact with fans and share their music.

"This was always part of what we were doing at our live shows," Holzfeuer said. "During a song, we challenge anyone in the crowd to get on stage and to do jumping jacks the entire song, and whoever is the survivor would get a free T-shirt. Other times, we would have pushup challenges."

The vocalist added today, people usually discover the app first and then the band, which he said has been a bonus in terms of exposure.

ArnoCorps describes their music as action, adventure, hardcore rock 'n' roll, incorporating lyrics from films Arnold Schwarzenegger has starred in, including The Terminator, Predator and Total Recall.

"It conjures the ancient heroic stories that have been passed down for years, but these very same stories were exploited in Hollywood," said Holzfeuer, who called the movies' success a "cinematic Austroploitation."

"People don't realize that these are heroic archetypes. The focus is always on idolizing that guy and we think that's wrong. We turned it around where the listener is the hero. When you listen to the song, you hear they are singing about you," he added.

As for the app, Version 2.0 promises a better training schedule than its original 2014 counterpart.

"It's very progressive in terms of number of reps and sets. You get stronger over time," said the singer, who's completed the program himself. "It really works perfect now."

Dal Richards dies at 97

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Swing band leader became ill, cancelled Dec. 31 show

A man who helped Vancouverites bring in the New Year for decades died just minutes before the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve.

Dal Richards was 97.

His wife, Muriel Richards, says Dal and his band had been booked to play the New Year's Eve party at the Hotel Vancouver, where he'd played from 1940 to 1965.

But she says he became ill in November and, not wanting to disappoint an audience with a substandard performance, he decided to cancel.

Richards received the Order of Canada in 1994 and is also on the B.C. Lions Wall of Fame in acknowledgment of his many years as musical director of halftime shows.

During his nearly 80-year string of New Year's Eve performances, Richards also played at the Bayshore Hotel and the River Rock Casino.

"Dal was always a real professional, consummate performer and he felt if he couldn't be what he'd been for all the rest of it that he wasn't going to put on a poor show," Muriel Richards said in an interview on Friday.

"New Year's Eve was such a big thing to him, and to not be able to do it really saddened him."

Richards took up music as a way to console himself after losing an eye in a slingshot accident at the age of 9. The disability made him ineligible for service during the Second World War, which is how he managed to have so many consecutive New Year's Eve shows.

Mary McNeil, former minister of state for ActNow B.C., dances with Dal Richards at the Robson Square ice rink in January 2013.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

> **"New Year's Eve was such a big thing to him, and to not be able to do it really saddened him.**
> Muriel Richards

When swing and big band went out of style and gigs dried up in the mid-1960s, Richards went into the hotel management business. But he still kept a band going on the side and always had a booking to ring in the new year.

Demand picked up in the early 1980s, and Richards cut records. Until he became ill, his band was still taking bookings for weddings, birthdays and conventions.

Richards said her husband's last performance was a Christmas party at the Vancouver Club. Dal was in hospital, she said, but he put on his tuxedo and joined his band at the party to take the stage and sing As Time Goes By.

His family sang Auld Lang Syne to him on Dec. 30 because they didn't think he'd last another full day. He died at 11:41 p.m. on Dec. 31.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Tourist dead after snowmobile hits tree

An Australian tourist has died after a snowmobile crash in Whistler on New Year's Day.

Canadian Wilderness Adventures has issued a statement saying the 65-year-old man was going down Blackcomb Mountain on a tour when he hit a tree around 11 p.m. Friday.

The company says it appears the man lost control of the snowmobile and left the track.

Staff and a nursing student who were on the tour provided first aid, but the man was pronounced dead at the scene.

The company expressed condolences to the man's family and friends in the statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Body of missing camper found in provincial park

The body of a missing camper has been found in a provincial park near Maple Ridge.

A 39-year-old man went missing in Golden Ears Provincial Park around 2:30 a.m. on New Year's Day after telling friends he was going to set off fireworks.

Rick Laing of Ridge Meadows Search and Rescue says about 34 people from several search and rescue organizations looked for the man Friday afternoon and continued late into the night.

The search resumed early Saturday morning, and a boat crew found a man's body in Alouette Lake around 10 a.m.

Ridge Meadows RCMP say the body is that of the missing camper.

Laing says the man's death appears to be an accident. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Vital winter roads source of concern

INFRASTRUCTURE

First Nations leaders zero in on impact of climate change

Wonky weather conditions are prompting aboriginal leaders to raise concerns about the impact of climate change on winter roads, which serve as lifelines for food, fuel and other necessities in several northern communities.

Isadore Day, the Ontario regional chief for the Assembly of First Nations, said the reliability of the northern winter road network is in jeopardy in his province.

"The winter roads have essentially become a way of life for the communities and now they can't rely on those winter roads," Day said, noting the network is used to offset the cost to bring essential goods to fly-in reserves by air.

The problem exemplifies why there was outcry from First Nations during the recent COP21 climate change summit in Paris, Day said. He said if people want access into the north, the only viable way now is to have a proper road network.

NDP indigenous affairs critic Charlie Angus, who represents a northern Ontario riding that includes a number of First Nations communities, said money needs to be invested in sustainable infrastructure.

There has been a long-standing push for permanent roads but climate change has made the issue much more pressing, he noted. "This is the front line and this is where the action needs to be taking place now."

There is "every evidence" Canada's Aboriginal Peoples are indeed on the front lines of climate change, Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett said in an interview with The Canadian Press.

"I think it is very worrying and I think that as we look not only to Ontario but to Manitoba, the proposals for the eastern road there, it is something that we are looking at and knowing that we've got to build the kind of resilient infrastructure that will deal with the changing climate."

"There will be no road if we don't have an opportunity to speak for ourselves on the issue of climate change."

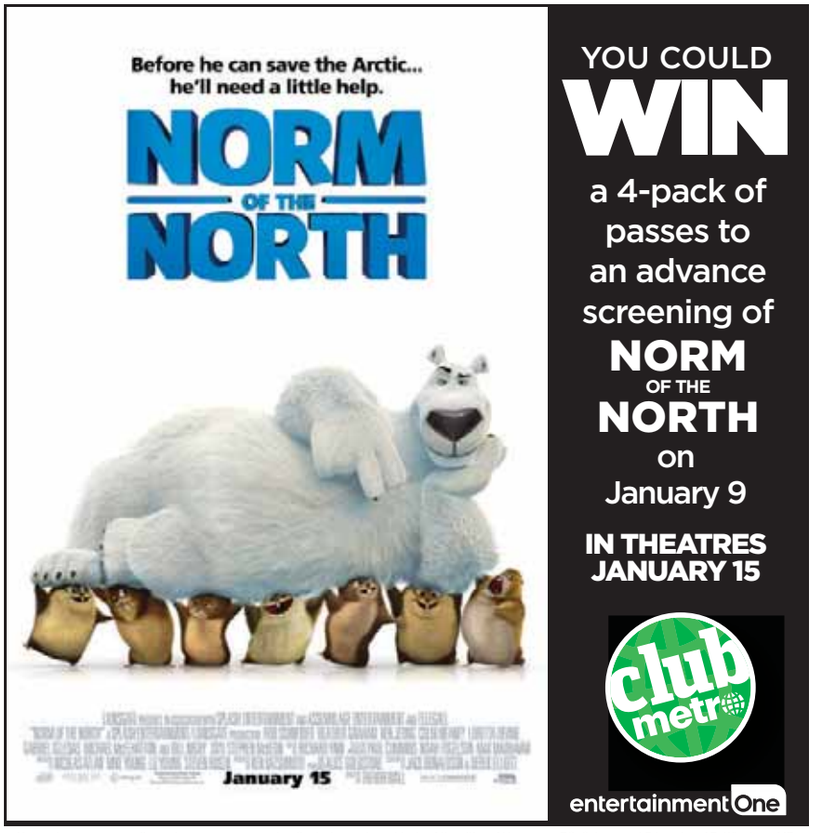
Isadore Day, the Ontario regional chief for the Assembly of First Nations

The federal government is open to examining the impacts of the issue to allow for a long-term strategy to be developed, she added.

"This will require a real collaborative effort," she said, highlighting that permanent infrastructure would help to create resource revenue in the future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day is calling for a proper road network into the north.
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE



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POLITICS

MP enters wellness program

Newly elected Liberal MP and former broadcast journalist Seamus O'Regan says he has entered a wellness program to adopt "an alcohol-free lifestyle."

O'Regan, who hosted CTV's Canada AM for nearly a decade, announced from his Twitter account on Sunday that he had checked into the program over the holiday break.

"I've decided after consultation with family that I can be most effective as a Member of Parliament by adopting an alcohol free lifestyle," O'Regan tweeted. "To that end, over the holiday break, I have entered a wellness program."

O'Regan added that he will return to his duties as a MP for St. John's South-Mount Pearl before Parliament resumes later this month.

He also noted that he'd have "more to say" on the matter in the future, but asked for privacy until then.

"VERY proud of my good friend SeamusORegan for getting the help he needs."

Tweet from Olympian and mental health advocate Clara Hughes

Liberal MP Seamus O'Regan following his win in the district of St. John's South on October. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

O'Regan's husband expressed his support shortly after the announcement was made online.

"So proud of my husband," Steve Doussis said on Twitter.

A spokeswoman for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau did not comment on the matter on Sunday.

But many others expressed their encouragement for O'Regan on social media, including Olympian Clara Hughes and O'Regan's former Canada AM co-host Beverly Thomson.

"Hugs and strength to you," Thomson tweeted.

O'Regan, originally from St. John's, was elected in October as part of the Liberals' sweep of the Atlantic provinces.

Prior to his career in journalism, he was a senior policy adviser to then Newfoundland premier Brian Tobin.

O'Regan was also an ambassador for Bell Let's Talk, a campaign aimed at removing the stigma of mental illness.

He has also served as executive vice-president for communications at the Stronach Group, a racetrack operator, and a media innovator in residence at Toronto's Ryerson University.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Education initiative invites content

TECHNOLOGY

Canada-based project gives solar tablets to youth in need

Sanam Islam
Metro | Toronto

When it comes to helping others around the world, most people open up their wallets.

But a local non-profit called The Rumie Initiative is offering a way to help vulnerable children simply by donating time.

Rumie provides free digital educational content to underprivileged children in 11 countries through preloaded, solar-powered tablets.

Tariq Fancy CONTRIBUTED

But in October, after facing a shortage of content for its new Syria campaign, the non-profit opened up an online cloud platform that allows anyone to submit high-quality educational content that can be used by the millions of Syrian refugees living in camps.

The information is then loaded on Rumie tablets and distributed to those in need.

"The fact that we're able to say you can give your money, but you can also give your time, is something that's kind of novel," said Rumie founder Tariq Fancy.

"I think it's exciting, and volunteering online will only increase in the next several years."

Fancy, born to Kenyan immigrants of South Asian heritage, said he's always been passionate about helping those in the developing world. So much so that the 37-year-old gave up a lucrative career as an investment banker on Wall Street to return to Toronto and start Rumie two years ago.

Syrian refugees and children in South Africa have used Rumie's solar-powered tablets. CONTRIBUTED

In addition to putting his savings into the initiative, his degree in international development also came in handy when developing a strategy.

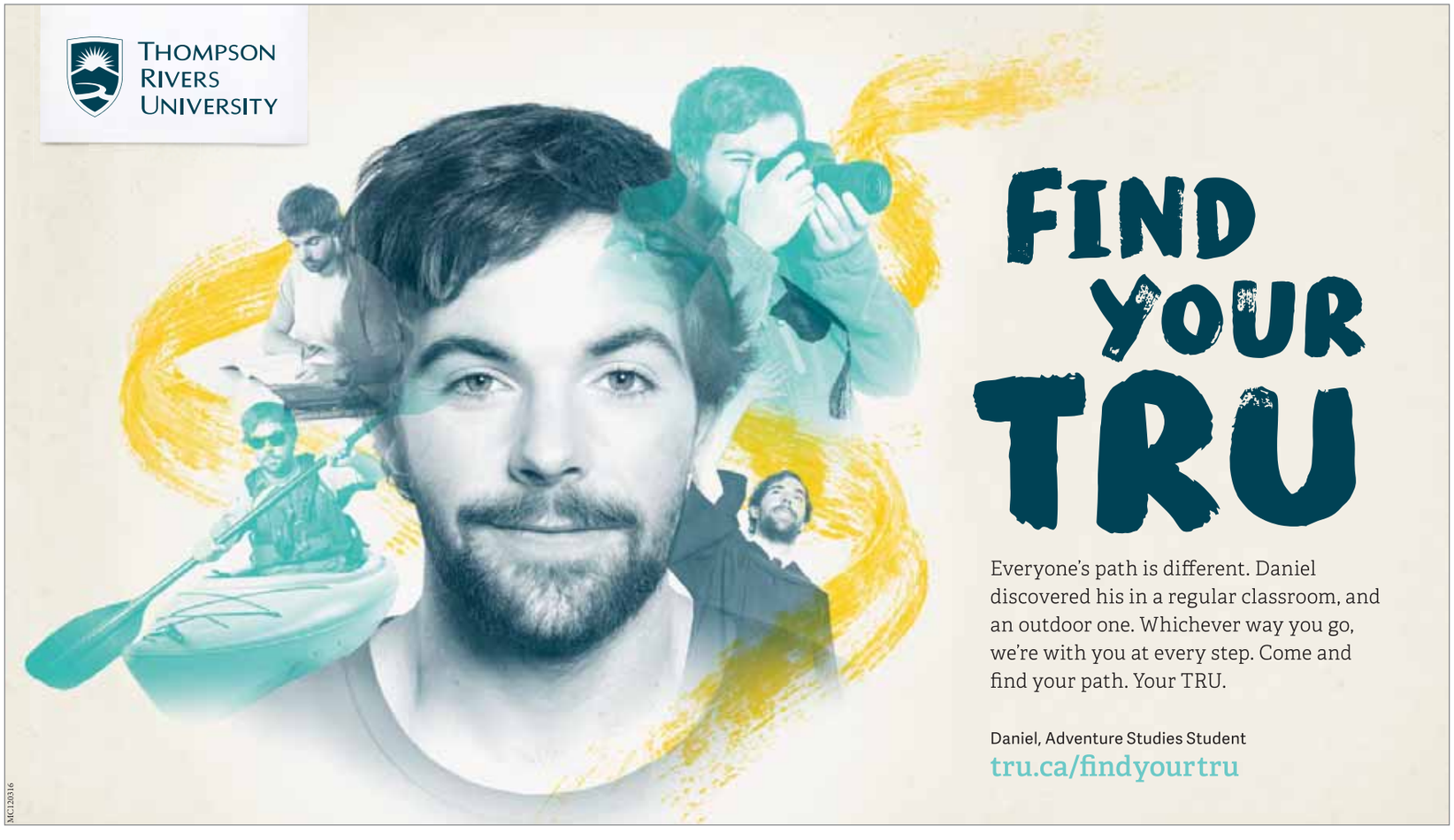
"Underprivileged children are underperforming because there are barriers to education," Fancy said. "By using tablets, we're providing education in way that's cheaper, faster and more efficient."

It also appears to be more effective.

"We've heard from our partners that kids are far more engaged than with paper alternatives. They're excited to use technology they've often never seen," Fancy says.

Each tablet costs $50 to produce, and, to date, Rumie has distributed thousands of them all over the world, Fancy said.

He says he hopes to expand the program to more places, such as Jordan and Turkey, in the near future.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Clampdowns set back EU ideals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EUROPE

Idea of no borders crumbles

Since it opened in 2000, the Oresund bridge between Sweden and Denmark has been a towering symbol of European integration and hassle-free travel across borders.

On Monday, new travel restrictions imposed by Sweden to stem a record flow of migrants are transforming the bridge into a striking example of how national boundaries are re-emerging. A year of clampdowns on migration and terrorism has all but killed the idea of a borderless Europe where you could drive or train-hop from Spain to Norway without showing your passport.

"We're turning back the clock," said Andreas Onnerfors, an associate professor in intellectual history. "We're going back to a time when the bridge didn't exist," he said, referring to new ID checkpoints.

The move is meant to stop undocumented migrants from reaching Sweden, which reversed its open-door policy after receiving more than 160,000 asylum-seekers last year, mainly from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

It follows the reintroduction of border checks in Germany, Austria, France, Belgium and other countries in what's supposed to be a passport-free travel zone of 26 nations. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Armed protesters call out for militias to join them

OREGON

Standoff is over local control of public land

The remote high desert of eastern Oregon became the latest flashpoint for anti-government sentiment as armed protesters occupied a national wildlife refuge to object to a prison sentence for local ranchers for burning federal land.

Ammon Bundy — the son of Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy, who was involved in a 2014 standoff with the government over grazing rights — was among the people at the headquarters of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. It was unclear how many people were taking part in the protests.

Ammon Bundy posted a video on his Facebook page asking for militia members to come help him. He said "this is not a time to stand down. It's a time to stand up and come to Harney County," where Burns is located.

Bundy and other militia members came to Burns last month, a small town 450 kilometres southeast of Portland. They were upset over the looming prison sentences for local ranchers Dwight and Steven Hammond. They went to the wildlife refuge Saturday following a rally to support the ranchers.

Dwight Hammond, 73, and Steven Hammond, 46, said they lit the fires on federal land in 2001 and 2006 to reduce the growth of invasive plants and protect their property from wildfires. The two were convicted of the arsons three years ago and served time — the father three months, the son one year. But a federal judge ruled in October that their terms were too short under U.S. minimum-sentencing law and ordered them back to prison for about four years each.

Protesters march Saturday in support of an Oregon ranching family facing jail for arson. Family members were convicted three years ago and served time. But a judge ruled their terms were too short under federal law and ordered them back to prison for about four years each. LES ZAITZ/THE OREGONIAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The decision generated controversy and is part of a decades-long dispute between some Westerners and the federal government over the use of public lands. Critics of the push for more local control have said the federal government should administer the public lands for the widest possible uses, including environmental and recreation.

In an interview posted on Facebook, Bundy said he and others are occupying a building at the refuge because "the people have been abused long enough." He said the group planned to stay indefinitely.

Dwight Hammond has said he and his son plan to report to prison Monday as ordered.

Harney County Sheriff Dave Ward said the armed protesters came under false pretenses.

"These men came to Harney County claiming to be part of militia groups supporting local ranchers, when in reality these men had alternative motives to attempt to overthrow the county and federal government in hopes to spark a movement across the United States," he said in a statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. POLITICS

Obama considers gun measures

Back at the White House after a two-week Hawaiian vacation, U.S. President Barack Obama says he is energized for his final year in office and ready to tackle unfinished business, turning immediate attention to the issue of gun violence.

Obama scheduled a meeting Monday with Attorney General Loretta Lynch to discuss a three-month review of what steps he could take to help reduce gun violence. The president is expected to use executive action to strengthen background checks required for gun purchases.

Republicans strongly oppose any moves Obama may make, and legal fights seem likely over what critics would view as infringing on their constitutional rights to bear arms. But Obama is committed to an aggressive agenda in 2016 even as public attention shifts to the presidential election.

While in Hawaii, Obama worked on his final State of the Union address, scheduled for Jan. 12. The speech will give the president another chance to try to reassure the public about his national security stewardship after the attacks in Paris and San Bernardino, California.

Barack Obama GETTY IMAGES

Republicans have outlined a competing agenda for January, saying they will spend the first days of 2016 taking another crack at eliminating keys parts of the president's health insurance law and ending federal funding for women's health-care provider Planned Parenthood. The legislation is unlikely to become law, but it is popular with the Republican base in an election year.

The debate about what Obama may do on gun violence already has spilled over into the presidential campaign. Hillary Clinton has called for more aggressive executive actions on guns, and rival Bernie Sanders said he would support Obama's expected move. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iranian demonstrators chant in front of the Saudi Embassy in Tehran on Sunday during a protest denouncing the execution of Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr. VAHID SALEMI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cleric's execution sets off tensions

MIDDLE EAST

Saudi Arabia, Iran cut ties over incident

Saudi Arabia announced Sunday it was severing diplomatic relations with Shiite powerhouse Iran amid escalating tensions over the Sunni kingdom's execution of a prominent Shiite cleric.

The move came hours after protesters stormed and set fire to the Saudi Embassy in Tehran and followed harsh criticism by Iran's top leader of the Saudis' execution of Sheikh Nimr al-Nimr.

Saudi Foreign Minister Adel al-Jubeir said Iranian diplomatic personnel had 48 hours to leave his country and all Saudi diplomatic personnel in Iran had been called home.

The mass execution of al-Nimr and 46 others — the largest carried out by Saudi Arabia in three and a half decades — laid bare the sectarian divisions gripping the region as demonstrators took to the streets from Bahrain to Pakistan in protest.

It also illustrated the kingdom's new aggressiveness under King Salman. During his reign, Saudi Arabia has led a coalition fighting Shiite rebels in Yemen and staunchly opposed regional Shiite power Iran, even as Tehran struck a nuclear deal with world powers.

Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, warned Saudi Arabia on Sunday of "divine revenge" over al-Nimr's death, while Riyadh accused Tehran of supporting "terrorism" in a war of words that threatened to escalate.

Al-Nimr was a central figure in Arab Spring-inspired protests by Saudi Arabia's Shiite minority until his arrest in 2012. He was convicted of terrorism charges but denied advocating violence.

On Saturday, Saudi Arabia put al-Nimr and three other Shiite dissidents to death, along with a number of al-Qaida militants. Al-Nimr's execution drew protests from Shiites around the world, who backed his call for reform and political freedom for their sect.

While the split between Sunnis and Shiites dates back to the early days of Islam, those divisions have only grown as they intertwine with regional politics, with both Iran and Saudi Arabia vying to be the Mideast's top power. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REACTION

Tehran protest gets violent

In Tehran, a protest outside the Saudi Embassy grew violent as protesters threw gasoline bombs at the embassy, setting part of the building ablaze, according to Gen. Hossein Sajedinia.

Forty people were arrested and investigators were pursuing other suspects. Iranian President Hassan Rouhani condemned Saudi Arabia's execution of al-Nimr, but branded those who attacked the Saudi Embassy as "extremists."

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Making it on social media

CONTENT CREATION

Lucrative for some, struggle for others

When online personality Essena O'Neill "quit" social media, she gained a wave of media coverage. The 19-year-old Australian revealed how she earned close to $2,000 per post on her social media channels, without being a conventional celebrity. O'Neill's profile and brand was built entirely from her posts on Instagram and videos on YouTube. She wasn't earning money from endorsing products online because of her status in the worlds of entertainment or sport.

South Korean singer Psy earned $5.9 million for his viral hit, Gangnam Style.

More people than ever are making a living online. How much are they banking — and how are these social media entrepreneurs cashing in?

Essena O'Neill said she earned close to $2,000 per social-media post before she "quit" the platforms. ESSENA O'NEILL/INSTAGRAM

YOUTUBE: If you create your own content, you can become a YouTube partner and receive a small percentage of ad revenue from clips before your video or on in-video banners.

Once you have a large subscription and audience base, sponsored videos or paid product endorsements can also be a lucrative avenue.

How much can you make? Using Patreon, the Hillywood Show, which creates parody videos, receives more than $7,000 per month. To some degree, the amount of money creators earn directly from YouTube is shrouded in mystery.

James Dodds III of sketch comedy group TrueNuff.tv said he received about $1.57 per 1000 views.

But not all video makers are so successful. Just Between Us, a comedy channel run by Allison Raskin and Gaby Dunn, has 500,000 subscribers. Yet Dunn recently wrote an article claiming the duo are "barely scraping by" and the money from YouTube was "unpredictable" and "not enough to live."

Part of the unpredictability of YouTube revenue stems from the different types of advertising, and whether viewers are using an ad blocker to prevent the lucrative sponsored messages from playing at all.

YouTube also takes around 45 per cent of ad revenue, according to sources quoted in a New York Times article in 2014.

VINE: The short-form video platform doesn't run ads like Youtube, but that hasn't stopped creators from earning six-figure salaries. Mainstream brands are increasingly turning to Vine stars for content creation to engage with users as naturally as possible.

"Brands are increasingly doling out dollars to content creators due to their unique ability to produce relevant, authentic stories that resonate with consumers' evolving media consumption habits," said Claudia Page at Crowdtap, speaking to business.com.

How much can you make? Cody Johns, who has 3.6 million followers and more than a billion Vine views, told Business Insider one video campaign can net him upwards of $20,000. Rob Fishman, who co-founded digital advertising group Niche, says the top creators can receive $50,000 for one six-second clip.

INSTAGRAM: Users can make money from gaining followings and offering that audience to advertisers. Typically, creators make money on the platform through product placement or being hired to garner publicity by posting event photos.

How much can you make? Canadian style, fashion and travel blogger Ania Boniecka, who has just over 100,000 followers, said a single photo could net her $500.

Anthony Danielle, co-founder of the Mobile Media Lab agency, has said more than 100,000 followers can net $700 to $900. More than 500,000 followers could be worth $2,000 to $3,000, and $4,000 is the most Instagrammers have been paid, says a Yahoo article.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ENERGY

Google offering solar tips

The company that lets you compare air fares and translate foreign languages online wants to make it easier to weigh the costs and benefits of installing solar panels on household rooftops.

Google is rolling out a new online service that quickly tallies up considerations of going solar and whether homeowners should consider buying or leasing photovoltaic panels costing thousands of dollars. Google's Project Sunroof combines the eye-in-the-sky images behind Google Earth with calculations on how much shade trees cast over a rooftop, data on local weather patterns, industry pricing and available subsidies to arrive at its bottom line.

Interested potential customers are referred to solar-panel installers for further follow-up, cutting their marketing costs, said Carl Elkin, the senior software engineer behind the service. "We at Google believe in solar energy. The solar industry needs our help," he said.

Google's proposition is a faster, simpler way of sizing up possible pros and cons of solar than calling out someone for a site evaluation or using the more complex calculator offered by the U.S. Energy Department.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Food co-operatives becoming a rarity

Food co-operative programs that allow members to scoop rice, sort organic vegetables and ring up sales in return for grocery discounts are fading fast amid a changing marketplace and fears of violating labour laws.

The "member labour" or volunteer programs are intertwined with the do-it-yourself idealism that launched a wave of co-ops in the '70s. But they have become rare.

At Honest Weight Food Co-Op in Albany, N.Y., an effort to drop its volunteer program has riled members. Supporters say the involvement of member-owners differentiates co-ops in an age when even strip-mall supermarkets sell locally grown produce.

Working member programs were a basic feature of co-ops, launched decades ago during a flush of interest in natural living and alternatives to big capitalism. The programs offered cheap labour for stores with little capital.

The larger issue weighing on the board at Honest Weight and other co-ops is the fear that labour officials could classify their working members as employees rather than volunteers, leaving them open to charges they are violating minimum-wage rules. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shoppers fill containers in the bulk department at Honest Weight Food Co-Op in Albany, N.Y. MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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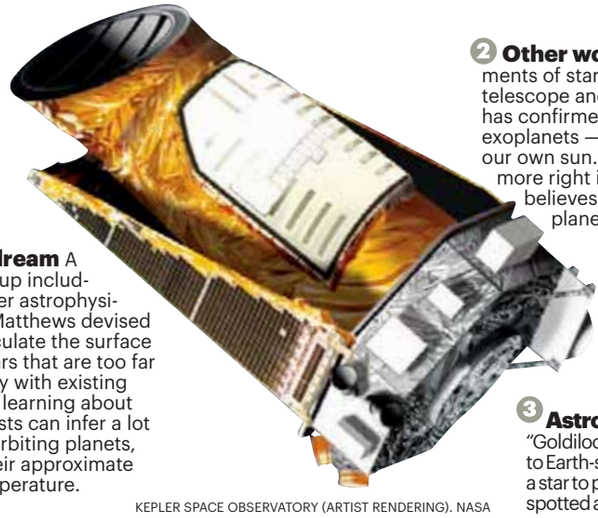
THE BIG THING: LIFE BEYOND EARTH

On planets right in our own Milky Way galaxy (which, to be fair, is pretty big at 9.5 hundred quadrillion kilometres across), there could be primordial soup brewing, life evolving, even whole societies developing and collapsing. We just don't know. But researchers are getting light-years closer. In a paper published this week in the journal Science Advances, a team including scientists from the University of British Columbia explains how they discovered a new, and more accurate, way to characterize extremely distant stars — including ones that may have orbiting planets hospitable to life. It's a step towards eventually meeting up with whomever or whatever may call those unknown worlds home. SOURCE: CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR



KEPLER SPACE OBSERVATORY (ARTIST RENDERING). NASA

1 **Distant dream** A research group including Vancouver astrophysicist Jaymie Matthews devised a way to calculate the surface gravity of stars that are too far away to study with existing methods. By learning about stars, scientists can infer a lot about their orbiting planets, including their approximate size and temperature.

2 **Other worlds** The project used measurements of star brightness from Canada's MOST telescope and NASA's Kepler spacecraft. Kepler has confirmed the existence of almost 2,000 exoplanets — planets that orbit stars other than our own sun. Preliminary findings point to billions more right in our own galaxy. Matthews says he believes alien life will be found on an exoplanet within 20 years.

3 **Astronomers' jackpot** The ultimate find is a "Goldilocks planet" — not too hot, not too cold, close to Earth-sized and just about the right distance from a star to possibly harbour liquid water. Kepler has spotted a handful of these cosy worlds so far.

Thank the province for seismic risk to our kids

CITY HOLLER
Trish Kelly

I'm no seismologist. Tuesday night, I was roused from sleep by my boyfriend.

"What was that?" he asked a dreaming me. Since I'd been unconscious a moment before, I didn't have an answer.

My best guess for why the bed had shaken and the door slammed? Perhaps our apartment is haunted. We've only been here for a month, and several times in the night, I have heard what I think is someone peeing in our ensuite bathroom. Though I'd previously rationalized the sound as the toilet's faulty fill valve, I was suddenly willing to entertain the hypothesis we have a ghost for a roommate.

An earthquake could hit during school hours and our city's children could be trapped in the rubble.

Facebook confirmed the real reason for the shaking, and thank goodness. I'd much rather live through a mild earthquake than have to break a lease because of a poltergeist.

It was not long before I dozed off again. If this was the first shock and the big one was imminent, I wanted to face it lying down and unconscious.

I'm nihilistically OK with the idea that the big one could hit Vancouver while I'm dreaming away in my bed, and I could be a goner. What I'm not OK with is the idea that an earthquake could hit during school hours and our city's children could be trapped in the rubble of the seismically-challenged buildings they are forced to attend.

The provincial government often cops an ostrich pose on important issues. From the climate impacts of liquefied natural gas to this year's decision to push the deadline for seismic upgrades for B.C. schools until 2030, our province has plenty of sand in its ears.

What's the hold-up for the provincial government in ensuring that our city's children attend schools that will not fall down on top of them during a significant earthquake? Squabbling is what's slowing the process down.

The current stalemate surrounds empty seats in Vancouver schools. The province doesn't want to fund seismic upgrades for schools that are not currently full. They want students to be shuffled to other schools to reach their benchmark for full enrollment before they invest in the upgrades.

There's also a spat about whether seismic upgrades should be prioritized or scheduled alongside other needed repairs, such as like rewiring or fixing school roofs.

What's the right approach? I don't know for sure, but for the sake of our city's children, figure it out. Governing is about making the best decision possible and getting it done.

The cost of not making our schools earthquake-proof is more than just the risk of not being re-elected in 2017. The true risk is piles of rubble on top of our city's children when the big one hits.

Trish Kelly lives and writes in East Vancouver. Follow her @trishkellyc

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
metroview

A new New Year's resolution: Enjoy exactly who we are

All will be well.

It's the title of a book of daily religious reflections Mum gave me a few years ago. I spent a while trying to read each meditation, but it's the title that has stuck.

Holidays, even among a large and loving family like mine, are not simple bliss. We had at least two minor dramas that I'm aware of, a new rescue dog with a penchant to nip at the kids, far too much kitchen time for my parents, elbow deep in dishes or a turkey, the general mayhem of a house packed with dozens, and hangovers.

I didn't see everyone I wanted to, or call everyone I should have. And each of my three siblings is juggling some confluence of life's stress: trying to find a new home in Vancouver that's big enough and just this side of affordable, while making a mark in a new job; training the Mexican rescue dog who looks like Dobby the house-elf (loveable, but unpredictable); going back to school as an adult and fretting over grades and debt.

Just before Christmas dinner, Dad stood up at the head of the table. Westwoods don't give each other gifts (we do secret Santa) — but everyone makes each other cards. It's a serious requirement. No store-bought allowed. This year, Dad didn't just make us cards — he wrote us poems. And then he performed them.

It's redundant to say no life (no holiday) is perfect.

One by one, eldest to youngest, he recited slant rhymes that captured our lives, at this moment. They were sweet, tinged with his offbeat humour.

He didn't gloss over our questionable histories, and noted I can "be goaded to debate fiercely on topics of gender" — a reference to a run-in we had when I was taking a gender theory class in university.

But each one ended on the same theme: Look how far you've come. And: You're doing just fine. Also: We love you.

It is pat to say nothing is simple. It's redundant to say no life (no holiday) is perfect. Still, every snag can come as a surprise. An inconvenience is never foreseen, even though every day holds one. And yet for many of us, when it's put into perspective via a poem written by your dad, life really is good.

The new year is often a time to reset what we want to be. But what if, instead of imagining who we want to be, we decided to enjoy exactly who we are, and where we are.

All will be well, the book says. And all is well, too.

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How do you choose the right RSP for you?

NEST EGG

Finding the right fit comes down to your knowledge and expectations

Michelle Williams

Thinking about opening a retirement savings plan? First you have to decide where and how you want to invest the money. ISTOCK

You're thinking about opening a retirement savings plan. That's a good thing. Aside from the obvious benefit of creating a nest egg for your retirement, you may also get a nice deduction on your upcoming tax return.

And the savings you put away can have several years of tax-deferred growth before you withdraw the money.

Many rookie investors think that once you decide how much to put into your RSP, you're done. However, you also have to decide where and how you want to invest the money — which vehicles and products to use.

"Once you're ready to invest, you have to decide on your RSP type," says Kurt Rosentreter, a financial advisor and chartered accountant. "One option is to explore the group plan that may be offered by your employer." This type of plan is sponsored by your employer, who may top up or match your contribution. "It's wise to take advantage of this because the employer's contribution is like free money."

An RSP is a "portable asset," says Kathleen Peace, partner and wealth advisor at Woodgate Financial Inc. and Investment Planning Counsel. "So if you leave your job, you can take it to any financial institution."

Another benefit is that you can arrange to have contributions automatically withdrawn from your pay, so you won't miss the money. But you may not be happy with the investment options your employer's plan offers. If you're looking for more control of your investments, another option is to set up an individual plan with your bank.

"In this case, you deposit your money into an RSP account and you can choose to buy the bank's financial products according to characteristics like your risk tolerance and your financial goals," explains Rosentreter.

For those interested in doing their own investing, "self-directed RSPs can be managed online. You can do this through most financial institutions," explains Peace. "This is an attractive option to the investor who wants to select and manage their investments themselves and pay minimal transaction fees."

Remember to take stock of your own goals and expectations before choosing an investment.

"How and where you invest should be aligned to your risk tolerance, time horizon, tax bracket, financial knowledge, return expectations, retirement goals and other factors," says Rosentreter.

Individual vs. spousal plan

When you contribute to an individual plan, you make the contribution and you get the benefit of the tax deduction. But sometimes it's worth considering a spousal or common-law RSP.

"Usually it's the higher-income earner making a contribution to their spouse's RSP," says wealth advisor Kathleen Peace.

"The higher-earning spouse gets the tax deduction but the lower-earning spouse owns the investment. When it comes time to withdraw funds from the RSP, the couple can better manage their taxes by income splitting, as long as the spouse's contribution has remained in the plan for at least three calendar years."

The decision to open a spousal RSP, says financial advisor Kurt Rosentreter, should take into account "your income-tax bracket today and in the future for you and your spouse, your investment strategy, and your overall retirement plan."

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HOROSCOPES

What's the year have in store? Take a look at the stars

Sally Brompton
For Metro Canada

Aries (March 21 - April 20)

Mars, your ruler, moves into passionate Scorpio at the start of the year, making it impossible to deny your feelings. Whatever it is that moves you — emotionally, mentally, intellectually or even spiritually — that is what you must dedicate yourself to in 2016. But don't overdo it. Jupiter's retrograde phase from January to May warns you cannot charge at life at 100 miles per hour all the time. Make quality work your goal and get creative (write a book, record a song, launch a vlog) in April and August when the Sun's influence is at a peak, then sit back and enjoy the applause in the fall.

Taurus (April 21 - May 21)

A solar eclipse in the friendship area of your chart in March means you will be expanding your area of activity, discovering new places and meeting new people. Who knew you could be so adventurous! But there are old scores to settle as well and the influence of Mars in January and February, then again in June and July, will encourage you to assert yourself in one-to-one situations. Be blunt if you have to. Let loved ones and work colleagues know you will no longer dance to their tune — not because it's a bad tune but because you've got one of your own.

Gemini (May 22 - June 21)

Saturn and Uranus will pull you in opposite directions in 2016, Saturn trying to keep you tied to the past, Uranus trying to show you how wonderful the future could be if you have the courage to let go and go with the flow.

Mars in adventurous Sagittarius in August and September should tip the balance in Uranus' favour and come the close of the year you will be moving in a radical new direction. Relationship-wise you'll need a strong and steady partner to anchor your need for thrill-seeking in the real world of work and family and making ends met. A marvellous roller-coaster year!

Cancer (June 22 - July 23)

The solar eclipse in your fellow Water sign of Pisces on March 9 will encourage you to look further afield for things to inspire you. Even if you are one of those stay-at-home type Cancers you will want to travel this year, and your wanderlust will take you to some fantastic places where you meet some remarkable people. By the time of the second solar eclipse of the year, in September, you may have put down roots in a completely new environment. Alternatively, you can stay where you are and expand your awareness through books and study. The world of the mind is your playground.

Leo (July 24 - Aug. 23)

Mars, planet of action and ambition, moves through the most dynamic area of your chart from March to May and again through August and September and these are the best months by far to begin some kind of creative or artistic endeavour. Never doubt you have what it takes to be the biggest and the best. Never doubt you have the talent to see your name up in lights. Success will be all the more enjoyable, of course, if you can share it with someone special and Venus in the partnership area of your chart from mid-February to mid-March is sure to bring love into your life.

Virgo (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Jupiter's retrograde phase from January to May will in some way hold you back from realizing your dreams and it's inevitable you will feel frustrated. But when the planet of good fortune turns in your favour again there will be no stopping you and by the time of the solar eclipse in your sign on Sept. 1 your life will be transformed. It's likely you will come into money later in the year and you should use what you gain to enrich both yourself and those you are closest to emotionally and mentally. Virgo never stops learning. What will the next stage of your education be?

Libra (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Jupiter's move into your sign in early September will in some way or other reward you for the patience and commitment you have shown through the rest of the year. Libra may be the sign of the balance but sometimes it is hard for even you to keep your cool, especially when planet Uranus seems so determined to disrupt both your domestic arrangements and your relationships. But life is a learning experience and come December, when Jupiter really starts to shine, your ability to see both sides of every story will put you at a huge advantage. Be amazing, Libra!

Scorpio (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Mars in your sign at the start of the year will endow you with a huge surge of energy and in both your career and your private life you will be making changes left, right and centre. Not only that but a second visit of Mars to your sign in June and July will give you a second bite of the cherry — and help you clear up some of the mess you made earlier in your headlong rush to be a success. The other big influence is Jupiter, which remains in the friendship area of your chart until September. It's there to remind you that you can't do it all on your own.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21):

Sagittarius and Saturn both begin with the letter S but there the similarity ends. Sags are carefree and love taking risks, while Saturn is cautious and not one to gamble. So, with Saturn in your sign throughout the year there is sure to be tension, but tension can be creative, and financially lucrative, if you plan ahead and accept the need to compromise. If you start the year slowly (by your standards at least) you can build up a head of steam that will make you unstoppable when Mars moves in your favour in August and September. For Sagittarius, there is no such word as "cannot."

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

Pluto in your sign will continue to change your life in subtle yet far-reaching ways and as early as Jan. 6, when Pluto joins with the Sun, then again on Feb. 6, when love planet Venus gets in on the act, your outlook, your lifestyle, indeed your very Capricorn DNA will undergo a transformation, though it may not seem that dramatic at the time. Where will this leave you? Energized and liberated, free to follow your own emotional and creative needs. You will still have responsibilities, of course, but they will no longer hold you back from fulfilling your limitless potential.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

The lunar eclipse in your fellow Air sign of Libra on March 23 will sweep away restrictions and by the time a new moon in the same sign comes around at the start of October you will be on a completely new path through life and loving every moment of it. Not everyone will be as delighted as you though and some relationships will fall by the wayside, but it's your chance for a new beginning and you have no intention of letting it pass. Aquarius has as much right to shine as anyone else and you intend to dazzle and delight every chance you get.

Pisces (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

Jupiter, planet of good fortune, stays in the partnership area of your chart until September, by which time you will be on excellent terms with people who can help you move closer to realizing your dreams, and as the solar eclipse on Sept. 1 brings one major project to a successful conclusion you will quickly move on to the next. Saturn's ongoing influence will find ways to remind you that only quality work counts, but you won't need much guidance. On every level — mental, emotional, professional and financial — you know a good thing when you see it: yourself!

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UBC

Financial health starts with you

PLANNING

Make it a resolution to take control of your money

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

If you're one of the people who have been letting the other guy handle the money, I've got a strong cup of coffee here for you: Take a sniff. While it may seem easier to let buddy deal with the dollars, that'll only save you some short-term fighting.

In the long term, you might find your family's financial reins are knotted up pretty badly.

Some people are unwilling to do the daily discipline of good money management; they'd rather leave it to their mates to manage the minutiae.

Others don't want to know the mess they've made. And some — even smart, hard-working folks — just haven't figured out that not everything you want you can have right away.

You need a plan.

Whenever you abdicate responsibility for dealing with the day-to-day of your money, whether you say, "Oh (s)he's better with the details," or "I just don't have the time," you're giving away control of your wealth.

If you don't know what the hell is going on with your money, you shouldn't be surprised to wake up broke. And giving it away isn't just handing over the money management to your mate.

It's also letting someone else make your investment decisions, allowing someone else to tell you how much money you can afford to borrow, and letting yourself get pushed into decisions you aren't absolutely convinced are good for your long-term financial health.

You work hard for your money, so hard for it honey. Why won't you spend a little time paying attention to what you're doing with it? And what it's doing for you.

Money management may not be the most exciting part of your life; not everyone gets turned on counting up their coins.

No one gets wealthy by accident. Pay attention to your money.

But it beats the heck out of having to deal with the negative fallout of having not paid attention.

And, you know what? It doesn't take all that much time.

This week make a date to sit down with your mate and go over your money.

From how much you're spending on food (you do have a budget, right?), to when you expect to be debt free (and a debt repayment plan?), to when you'll need to update your will (please tell me you have a will!), the conversations you have will lay the foundation for sharing your wealth: your wealth of knowledge, your wealth of insight, your wealth of experience.

If you have "people" who are managing your investments, insurance, estate plan, taxes… whatever, make an appointment to review how things sit.

Waiting for their once-a-year obligatory call isn't good enough.

And, for heaven's sake, stop thinking that those people have your best interests at heart.

They are in business to make money. They have bosses and sales targets and corporate expectations to meet.

If you don't have the time to take care of your money, why the dickens would they be interested in doing any more than the bare minimum to keep you as a client?

No one gets wealthy by accident. Pay attention to your money.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.com

This week, make a date with your partner to go over your finances. ISTOCK

SECOND CITY

Undoing anxiety in the spotlight

A decade ago, Cameron Algie couldn't imagine getting up on a stage, let alone performing improv comedy in front of an audience. Gripped by anxiety, he scoffed when his therapist suggested he was naturally funny and might do well in an improv class at Second City Toronto.

"It seemed like the scariest thing to do," recalls the Cambridge, Ont., native. "Anxiety is all about anticipation and imagining all these scary things, but once I was there in the class, it really was scary but fun."

Algie went on to complete all five stages of the improv classes there and then studied at the conservatory level. Now he teaches Improv for Anxiety or Public Speaking at the Second City Training Centre in Toronto.

Group work and building social skills are also a focus of the centre's new class, Improv for Teens on the Autism Spectrum, which begins Jan. 9.

Instructor Cassie Moes, who pitched the idea for the class, learned how to work with people with special needs as a middle-school teacher. She also had experience teaching improv exercises for people with special needs and did respite care at Reach Child and Youth Development Society in Delta, B.C.

"As kids get older — kids who are on the spectrum — there's not a lot of programming and resources that's of good quality for them to explore different things," says the Vancouver native. "So I really wanted to offer a program where not only will they get the social element that improv really provides but they would also just get to learn some skills which they can apply in their day-to-day life."

Moes teaches improv classes for teens on the autism spectrum at Second City Training Centre. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Algie says the biggest obstacle for students in the anxiety class is self-judgment. "When you stand in front of an audience, the audience is never judging you as harshly as you're judging you," says Algie. "If you make a little mistake onstage, the audience probably doesn't notice or care or think of it as a mistake. They probably laughed."

Moes says they tell students not to try to be funny.

"I always try to say, who you are and what you have and what you bring inherently is enough," she says. "You are protected by the framework of the game. The more you let yourself go, those are the people who have the most success, the people with no filter."

Algie and Moes say some anxiety alumni have gone on to perform in front of hundreds and even formed their own troupes.

"For a lot of people, public speaking is worse than death," says Moes. "So they're like, 'If I can stand on this stage and perform in front of 200 people, what else can't I do in my life?'"

The Improv for Teens on the Spectrum classes are for "high-functioning independent teens" ages 13 to 19. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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HUDSON'S BAY

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ROBOCOP V TERMINATOR

Which '80s cyborg wore it better?

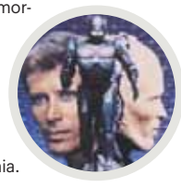
RoboCop and The Terminator are two of the most iconic sci-fi films of the 1980s. Both are set in a post-apocalyptic world where man and machine merge in an unforgettable cyborg. The franchises even spawned a four-issue comic-book crossover by cartoonist Frank Miller in 1992. But head-to-(metallic)-head, which futuristic cyborg ruled the silver screen?

Best Mission In RoboCop, police officer Alex Murphy (played by Peter Weller) is killed by a gang of thugs, then revived and transformed by a mega-corporation into the ultimate (and shiniest) beat cop. In The Terminator, Arnold Schwarzenegger famously plays a cyborg assassin who travels back in time to stop the saviour of humanity. As far as missions go, that one's hard to top.
Winner: The Terminator

Best Outfit While the Terminator has snazzy wraparound shades and a punky leather jacket, RoboCop gets a chrome bodysuit with built-in weapons and sleek sound effects. **Winner:** RoboCop, obviously.

Best Setting The Terminator prowls the suburban sprawl of '80's L.A., while RoboCop patrols the mean streets of dystopian Detroit. **Winner:** Both look equally scary. This one's a draw.

Best Ride RoboCop's 1985 Ford Taurus may be the most ordinary supercar in movie history, though it did have an onboard computer (remember, this was back in the '80s). The Terminator drives an assortment of stolen cars, including a '70s-era Chevy Nova, which he plows through a police station.
Winner: RoboCop



Best Catchphrase RoboCop's two most memorable lines are his understated warning to evildoers ("Dead or alive, you're coming with me") and his ominous advice for Detroit's youth ("Stay out of trouble"). But neither had the cultural cachet of the Terminator's unstoppable "I'll be back" — Arnie even used it on the campaign trail for governor of California.
Winner: The Terminator, baby.

Whether you're a Robo-rooter or a member of Arnie's army, you can relive both movies in all their '80s glory this month on Hollywood Suite. Check out RoboCop and The Terminator back-to-back on January 12, uncut and commercial-free. Take advantage of Hollywood Suite's free preview, or sign up for only $6 (or less) a month. Hollywood Suite takes you back to the '70s, '80s, '90s and 2000s with hundreds of movies on 4 HDTV Channels, Hollywood Suite On Demand and the Hollywood Suite GO app. Learn more at hollywoodsuite.ca.

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STAR METRO Content Solutions

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Grace in an unexpected place

Transparent creator Jill Soloway teases out the show's scenes that give viewers startling insight into the characters. CONTRIBUTED

THE SHOW: Transparent, Season 2, Episode 10 (Shomi)
THE MOMENT: The Embrace

Maura Pfefferman (Jeffrey Tambor), a 60-something transitioning, transgender woman, lies on a bed with Vicki (Anjelica Huston), who's had a double mastectomy, astride her.

"I don't know what to do," Maura whispers. Slowly, slowly, they begin to have sex.

The camera doesn't cut away.

It stays steadily on these two imperfect people.

So unaccustomed are we to seeing that, that at first it feels invasive, even merciless. But if you don't flinch, you'll realize that what you're witnessing is a moment of grace.

I'm so in love with this show I don't know where to begin.

To focus on a serious scene risks minimizing how slyly hysterical it is, how uncountable the witty lines and brilliant muttered asides, how effortlessly the actors throw them away.

You could watch Transparent for the laughs alone, and they would be smarter and more numerous than on any other show.

But creator Jill Soloway isn't content with that — she also gives us scenes of startling insight and intimacy, which she builds up to so skillfully that someone dancing with her reflection; or eating from a microwave, naked and alone in the dark; or hanging on the side of a pool, talking to her sister about sex, will make you gasp.

And when, in the last two episodes, Soloway brings together the many seemingly disparate strands she's been teasing out — well, if you were standing up, your knees would buckle.

Seriously, this show is a game-changer.

Nothing else comes close.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

DOCUMENTARY

Boston Marathon film celebrates spirit

America's marquee marathon is ready for its closeup.

Boston, the first feature-length documentary film about the Boston Marathon, is in the works. Its creators say the movie will go well beyond the 2013 bombings to retrace the iconic footrace's first steps in 1897.

"Over the years, the Boston Marathon has had so many extraordinary stories of people achieving and accomplishing things," said producer Megan Williams, an Oscar-nominated filmmaker. "It's like looking at cultural and social change over the last century through the lens of this major sporting event."

Two feature films (one starring Mark Wahlberg), a stage play and an HBO special also are in production, though they're all about the 2013 finish line attacks that killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 others.

No Boston documentary would be complete without the dark events of 2013. Boston, however, will focus less on the chaos than the comeback. The producers had 56 cameras along the course in 2014 for the marathon's first running since the bombings.

Director Jon Dunham said the city's determination to take back its namesake race will be a recurring theme in the movie, which was conceived before the attacks.

But the film will be a sort of highlights reel from the 120-year-old marathon, the nation's oldest. The Boston Athletic Association gave Dunham exclusive rights to its archive for the film.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

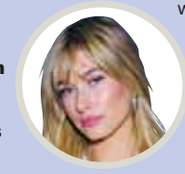
Meb Keflezighi wins the 118th Boston Marathon in 2014. Keflezighi was the first American man to win the race in 31 years. Boston is set to premiere in April 2017. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Camille Cosby must give deposition against Bill

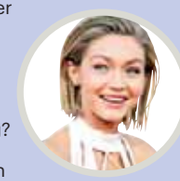
A federal judge has denied a motion by Bill Cosby's wife to throw out a subpoena requiring her to give a deposition in a lawsuit brought by seven women who accuse the comedian of sexually assaulting them decades ago. The ruling issued Thursday by U.S. Judge Magistrate David Hennessey in Springfield, Mass., means Camille Cosby is scheduled to be deposed by lawyers for the women on Wednesday. In his 12-page decision, Hennessey said Camille Cosby failed to prove that she and her husband were protected by the state's marital disqualification law. He also rejected claims that the value of the testimony would be outweighed by the "undue burden" it would cause.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bieber locks lips with Hailey Baldwin at NYE bash



It looks like Justin Bieber is hoping to kick off 2016 by putting to rest those pesky dating rumours — like Kourtney Kardashian, or him trying to woo back Selena Gomez — because the Biebs rang in the New Year "sucking face" with additional rumoured girlfriend Hailey Baldwin at Richie Akiva's villa party in St. Barts.
NED EHRBAR/METRO

One Direction's Zayn Malik strikes a pose for Gigi Hadid



Speaking of pop stars' dating lives, exactly how close are former One Direction member Zayn Malik and Gigi Hadid getting? Close enough for her to post photos of his bare chest to Instagram. Oh, and there was an adorable kitten in the pic, too, so it's basically peak Internet. Hadid posted the black-and-white photo without comment, just a simple image of Malik's headless torso cuddling her beloved cat, Cleo. Fans easily recognized Malik by his tattoos. NED EHRBAR/METRO

metro SPORTS

The Cleveland Browns had no comment on a report that injured QB Johnny Manziel went to Las Vegas on Saturday

Canucks back Virtanen after Team Canada loss

HOCKEY

19-year-old rookie taking criticism for play in Finland

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

Bo Horvat knows what it's like to be a member of Canada's national junior team when it fails to medal.

Two years ago, he represented Canada at the world junior hockey championship. That year, Canada lost to Russia in the bronze-medal game, making it two consecutive tournaments the national junior team did not bring home a medal.

He can relate to the crushing disappointment his Canucks teammate Jake Virtanen must feel following Saturday's quarter-final loss to Finland.

"At that age and that stage, you feel like you let your country down," Horvat said.

Against Finland on Saturday, Virtanen did record his first point of the tournament but he also took three penalties, including two in the same sequence in the third period.

"I'm sure he'd like to take those penalties back but stuff like that happens. I think he's a strong mental kid and he'll be OK from it," said Horvat.

But there is a difference between criticism that is fair and the vitriol of social media.

Type Jake Virtanen into the search window of Twitter, and you'll find a barrage of tweets from people trying to vilify the 19-year-old forward following yesterday's game.

Horvat said he was an active user of social media two years ago.

"You try not to look at it," he said.

"The Twitter accounts — everybody's chirping. It's insane, really, how hard they are on the young kids like this. It's not easy, especially when you see people ... telling you how terrible of a hockey player you are."

The Canucks play the Arizona Coyotes on Monday at Rogers Arena.

The Canucks still have the option of reassigning Virtanen back to the WHL, though it appears he'll come back to Vancouver at least for the time being.

The sixth overall pick in 2014 and a player Vancouver's management sees as a potential power forward, Virtanen has one goal and four points in 19 games with Vancouver.

Canucks coach Willie Desjardins admitted the organization is still working on the development "plan" for Virtanen, but the coach stressed he needs him to grow into a point producer.

"He's a big, strong player and I think his game is more suited for the pro level than it is for the junior level."

Jake Virtanen has come under fire for taking penalties in Canada's quarter-final loss on Saturday.
HEIKKI SAUKKOMAA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

"It's not easy, especially when you see people ... telling you how terrible of a hockey player you are.
Bo Horvat

NHL

Ducks continue their winning ways over Jets

Kevin Bieksa and Ryan Kesler each scored a power-play goal, and the Anaheim Ducks earned at least one point for the sixth consecutive game with a 4-1 win over the Winnipeg Jets on Sunday night.

Rickard Rakell and Corey Perry also scored, and John Gibson made 19 saves for the Ducks as they opened an eight-game homestand vital to their playoff hopes in the jumbled Pacific Division.

Tyler Myers scored for the Jets, and Michael Hutchinson stopped 31 shots.

After sweeping the Jets in the first round of last year's Stanley Cup playoffs, the Ducks won the first meeting this season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blackhawks' Crawford blanks Sens for 6th shutout

Corey Crawford made 26 saves in his NHL-leading sixth shutout this season to lead the Chicago Blackhawks past the Ottawa Senators 3-0 on Sunday night for their third straight win.

Duncan Keith and Artem Anisimov scored for Chicago, which also got an empty-net goal from Andrew Desjardins with 48 seconds left.

Crawford wasn't tested consistently, but he was sharp when needed in earning his 18th career shutout in his 300th game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

John Quenneville, left, and Travis Konecny react following Canada's loss to Finland in Helsinki on Saturday.
SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

WORLD JUNIORS

'The coaching staff did an excellent job'

Tom Renney came to the defence of Canada's coaching staff at the world junior hockey championship on Sunday.

The president and chief executive officer of Hockey Canada spoke a day after Canada dropped a 6-5 decision to Finland in the quarter-finals of the international event, guaranteeing a sixth-place finish at the tournament. It is the lowest Canada has placed at the world juniors since 1998.

"I thought our team was very well-prepared, I thought we had as good a coaching staff at the competition as anyone," Renney said in a conference room at the team's hotel. "There's no doubt in my mind that our guys put the time and effort in to have the team ready to go.

"There is a point in time where that transfer of responsibility goes from the coach to the player."

Head coach Dave Lowry's squad of under-20s struggled throughout the tournament with discipline on the ice. Canada took 10 minor penalties in a 5-2 loss to Sweden in the final game of the preliminary round before taking nine penalties in the quarter-final loss to Finland.

.860
Canada's team save percentage, which was second-worst in the 10-team tournament.

A particularly costly series of events saw forward Jake Virtanen — on loan from the NHL's Vancouver Canucks — take a double minor in the third period against Finland. While killing that penalty defenceman Joe Hicketts took a delay of game penalty when trying to clear the puck.

It was during the ensuing 5-on-3 that Patrik Laine scored the game-winning goal for Finland.

"That's the beauty of this event," said Renney. "We're talking about teenagers that are having to deal and cope with situations in the spontaneity of playing hockey that sometimes work against you and sometimes don't.

"The bottom line is that the coaching staff did an excellent job." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hawks teach Cardinals lesson

NFL

Seattle cruises to post-season in form after razing Arizona

The Seattle Seahawks are storming into the post-season with a rousing victory over the Arizona team that had dethroned them as NFC West champions.

Russell Wilson threw three touchdown passes in a second-quarter outburst, and the Seahawks emphatically snapped the Cardinals' nine-game winning streak in a 36-6 rout Sunday. "Absolutely, this was a statement," the Seahawks' Christine Michael said.

Playing on the same field where they lost a Super Bowl heartbreaker last February, the Seahawks (10-6) dominated from their opening possession and led 30-6 at the half.

"It was just us playing our style of football," Seattle's Richard Sherman said. "I think sometimes people forget who we are."

It was the most one-sided loss for Arizona in coach Bruce Arians' three seasons in the desert, and a sour end to the regular season for the Cardinals (13-3), who had clinched the NFC's No. 2 seed and a first-round playoff bye.

"This was a valuable lesson today," Arians said. "We could see it coming all week. Coaches, players, everybody fell into that reading the press clippings that were anointing us Super Bowl champs. It's a nice wakeup call.

Seahawks receiver Jermaine Kearse makes a catch against the Cardinals on Sunday in Glendale, Ariz. CHRISTIAN PETERSON/GETTY IMAGES

SUNDAY in Arizona

SEAHAWKS	CARDINALS
36	6

We got beaten in every phase of the game."

Tyler Lockett set up three of Seattle's four first-half touchdowns with punt returns of 66 and 42 yards, and a 36-yard reception. Seattle will play at Minnesota in the wild-card round next weekend. "These guys are confident that we can go wherever we got to go," Seattle coach Pete Carroll said. "We still don't know, but it isn't going to matter."

Arizona's Carson Palmer, who broke the franchise's single-season record for passing yards, did not play in the second half. Wilson sat out the fourth quarter. Seattle improved to 3-0 at Arizona since Arians became the Cardinals' coach. Arizona beat the Seahawks in Seattle 39-32 on Nov. 15.

The Cardinals emphasized they have two weeks to straighten things out and get back to playing the way they did in a 38-8 rout of Green Bay last week. "We're not in any way panicking or freaking out," Palmer said.

Michael rushed 17 times for 102 yards, including a 44-yarder on Seattle's first touchdown drive. Wilson, repeatedly burning the Cardinals with misdirection plays, completed 19 of 28 passes for 197 yards. In a span of 3 minutes, 54 seconds, he threw TD passes of 7 yards to Will Tukuafu, 8 yards to Chase Coffman, and 24 yards to Jerome Kearse.

Tukuafu's touchdown was his first reception of the season.

"That's a playoff football team, one that's been to the Super Bowl over the last two years," Arizona's Larry Fitzgerald said. "So we understand what we're going to be dealing with, the kind of competition it's going to be, and we have to raise our level of play, plain and simple."

Wilson broke Seattle's single-season records for yards passing (4,024) and touchdowns (34). Lockett set a franchise mark with 139 yards in punt returns.

Wilson became the first player in NFL history with at least 4,000 yards passing, 30 touchdown passes and 500 yards rushing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **"It was just us playing our style of football. I think sometimes people forget who we are."**
> Seahawks' Richard Sherman

WILD-CARD ROUND MATCHUPS

AFC	NFC
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati	Seattle at Minnesota
Kansas City at Houston	Green Bay at Washington
Byes: Denver, New England	Byes: Carolina, Arizona

IN BRIEF

Rejuvenated Chelsea routs Crystal Palace on the road

Chelsea displayed some of the swagger from last season's title-winning campaign in beating Crystal Palace 3-0 in the Premier League on Sunday, to continue its resurgence under caretaker manager Guus Hiddink.

Oscar put the champions ahead in the 29th before Willian and Diego Costa scored in the second half.

Chelsea has put up the worst title defence in league history, but is unbeaten in four games since Hiddink replaced the fired Jose Mourinho. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Real Madrid settles for draw with Valencia

Real Madrid squandered a late lead and a chance to catch Barcelona in the Spanish league standings when it slipped to a 2-2 draw at Valencia in a match it ended with 10 men on Sunday.

Gareth Bale headed Madrid to a 2-1 advantage in the 82nd minute, only for Paco Alcacer to strike right back for the hosts a minute later to spark a thrilling finish by both teams.

Barcelona played to a scoreless stalemate at Espanyol on Saturday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Butler leads Bulls' 2nd-half charge over Raptors

Jimmy Butler scored all but two of his 42 points in the second half Sunday to lift the Chicago Bulls over the Toronto Raptors 115-113.

DeMar DeRozan led the Raptors (21-14) with 24 points.

Pau Gasol added 19 points for the Bulls (20-12).

The Raptors are winless in their last seven games against the Bulls. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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RECIPE Sweet and Spicy Salmon

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Today is Ceri's birthday so we'll be eating cake, but you should totally make this. This recipe comes together so quickly and easily you have no excuse for not making a healthy dinner.

Ready in
Prep time: 25 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 3 Tbsp soy sauce
- 2 Tbsp honey
- 2 Tbsp sriracha
- 3 Tbsp water
- 4 salmon filets
- 2 tsp sesame seeds

Directions
1. Preheat the oven to 425 F.
2. In a small bowl whisk together the marinade ingredients.
3. Place the salmon filets on a rimmed baking sheet.
4. Spoon the marinade on top of the salmon and bake it for 15 minutes.
5. Serve with rice and greens and a sprinkling of sesame seeds.

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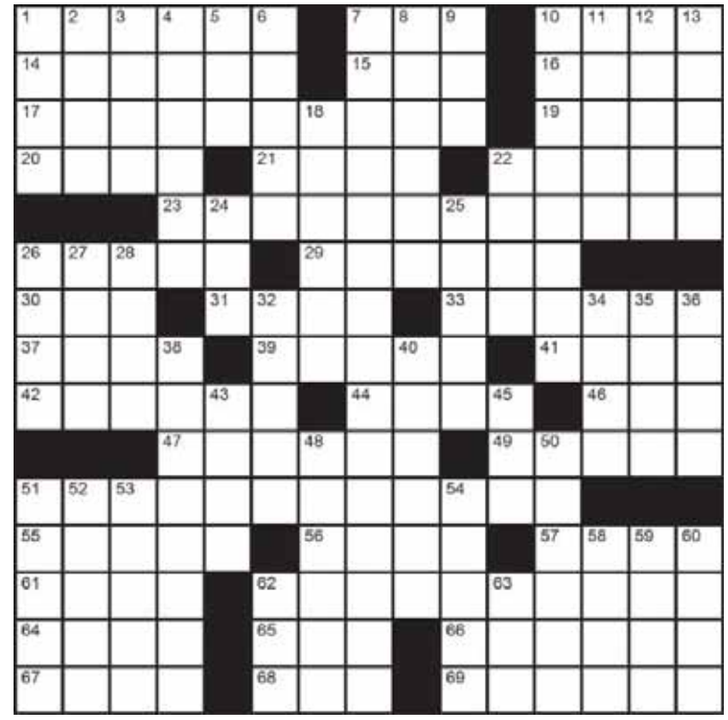
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Business bigwigs
7. Scand. land
10. 'N' in #15-Across' answer, briefly
14. Turkey's capital
15. Winnipeg Jets org.
16. Female 'friend' in France
17. Wearing very high-heeled shoes, say
19. Health club class
20. Diner beverage
21. Two-masted boat
22. Seize power
23. "Body's in Trouble" by Canadian singer/songwriter __ O'Hara
26. Perform like Magic Mike
29. "Only the __" by Roy Orbison
30. Canuck motorists org.
31. Leaky ink shape
33. Mitsou's message for her Cowboy: 2 wds.
37. Takes _ __ (Swims)
39. "And in the morning when _ __..." - Loggins & Messina
41. Chess piece
42. "The Blue __" by Johann Strauss Jr.
44. Be without
46. Pres. Eisenhower
47. On your marks, __ ...Go!
49. Stranded, castaway-style
51. Items obtained through hunting used to adorn traditional Inuit clothing: 2 wds.
55. Flexible
56. Spawned
57. Epochs
61. Sort of streambed
62. Can function independently - no accessories required
64. Actress Ms. Arden's
65. Nero's 151
66. Say "I'd like you to come."
67. Skin-care products suffix
68. Underworld goddess of Norse mythology
69. Lashed lieu

DOWN
1. Low music pitch
2. Not tricked: 2 wds.
3. Become traction-less
4. Deli selection
5. Prior, previously
6. Ancient companion for Dionysus
7. Trans-Canadian __ __ (Recreational traveller's winter route)
8. Jill of "The Love Boat"
9. Antiquity
10. One of the opinion that it can't be done
11. French Canadian singer, France D'__
12. Striped big cat ...mais en francais
13. Jumped
18. Songstress Ms. Swift
22. The __ Duckling
24. Police alert, commonly
25. Medieval bowed instrument
26. Large amount
27. "Presto!"
28. Particular precipitation
32. Eurythmics' "Would I __ __ You?"
34. Seethe
35. Oxen harness
36. Just managed, __ out
38. Boxing
40. Lustrous fabric
43. Lilith's portrayer on "Cheers"
45. Sewing collection
48. Nuanced
50. Delay or cancel
51. Made noise, crow-style
52. Plant source of tequila
53. Canadian band, Red __
54. "__ and the Cruisers" (1983) starring Tom Berenger
58. Churn
59. Not in favour
60. Plant's origin
62. Educ. institution
63. Whichever

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
If you think you cannot lose then you're halfway toward winning. A positive mental attitude is a must as you have so many things to do. You can never be optimistic enough.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Fortune will smile on you this week, especially if you think and act quickly. Your enthusiasm will impress people and increase the odds that you'll get a good offer. Self-belief plus hard work equals success.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You'll be a bit emotional today but that may be no bad thing. Some people think they can let you down and get away with it. Remind them actions have consequences.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You've realized that a certain person is no good for you, now let them know that your association is done. Don't worry about hurting their feelings — it's your feelings that matter.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
There'll be a lot of noise this week and you'll wish you could switch off the world. That isn't going to happen so invest in a good pair of headphones. Tune out the negativity.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may be inclined to let false accusations about you pass but the planets warn if you do your reputation will suffer. Don't let anyone say bad things about you without an instant response. Stand up for yourself.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Before the end of the month you must get both your family and financial houses in order. What you change now will determine how much fun you have later.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Something will occur today that angers you a bit but don't let your feelings get out of control. And before you make any kind of accusations make sure that the facts are correct.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Follow your heart over the next few days or you could miss out. Where relationships are concerned, be more open and honest about how you feel. Don't be suspicious of passion, least of all your own.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Every word a certain individual says seems to rub you up the wrong way. Either stay away from them or let them know that they need to keep silent around you. The time for pleasantries is over.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A friend is going through a hard time and you want to help them. Your best course of action is to keep your distance. Give them space to work things out for themselves.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Mix business with pleasure, but be careful the pleasure part of the equation does not take over completely. Get your work done first, then reward yourself with a night on the town.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

5					8	1		3
	9		7					
								4
	4		1	3				8
			4		9			
9				5	2		6	
1								
					6		8	
8		7	2					6

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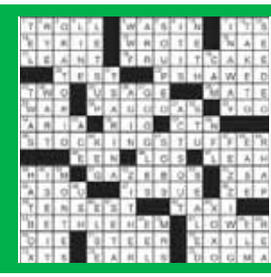

1	4	2	7	3	6	8	9	5
6	3	9	1	8	5	7	4	2
8	7	5	4	2	9	6	1	3
3	8	1	6	9	7	5	2	4
2	9	7	5	4	8	1	3	6
4	5	6	2	1	3	9	7	8
9	1	4	8	6	2	3	5	7
7	2	8	3	5	1	4	6	9
5	6	3	9	7	4	2	8	1

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